

What is Claimed is:

1. A method for monitoring the status of an electronic network, said method comprising:

executing a first program on at least one portion of said electronic network;

5 receiving first data resulting from the execution of said first program;

analyzing said first data to determine if said at least one portion of said network is not operating within a preselected specification;

executing a second program on said at least one portion of said electronic network if the analysis of said first data indicates that said at least

10 one portion of said electronic network is not operating within said preselected specification;

receiving second data resulting from the execution of said second program; and

analyzing said first data and second data to determine the cause of

15 said at least one portion of said network not operating within said preselected specification.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said executing a first program comprises measuring the latency associated with said at least one portion of said electronic network.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one portion of said network has a connector associated therewith, said connector storing a management information base, and wherein said executing a first program comprises measuring data stored in said management information base.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said executing a first program comprises performing at least two measurements of a parameter of said network, and wherein said first data provides an indication of said network not operating within a preselected specification if the difference of said at

5 least two measurements exceeds a preselected amount.

5 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said first program stores correlations between previous network conditions and previous network problems, and wherein said executing a first program comprises comparing present network conditions to stored network conditions and determining a network problem based at least in part on the comparison.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said executing said first program comprises running at least one trace route routine on said at least one portion of said network, said trace route routine measuring the latency of said at least one portion of said network.

5 7. The method of claim 1, wherein said executing said first program comprises running a trace route routine a first time and a second time on said at least a portion of said network, said trace route routine measuring the latency of said at least one portion of said network, said first data corresponding to the difference between the latency measured said first time and said second time said trace route routine is run.

8. The method of claim 1 and further comprising displaying a graphical user interface representative of said network, said graphical user interface indicating said portion of said network not operating within said preselected specification.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said graphical user interface further displays information relating to at least one cause of said network not operating within said preselected specification.

10. A device for evaluating the operational status of an electronic network, said device comprising a computer operatively connected to said network, said computer comprising a computer-readable medium having

instructions for operating said computer and evaluating said network by:

5 executing a first program on at least one portion of said electronic network;

 receiving first data resulting from the execution of said first program;

 executing a second program on said at least one portion of said electronic network if the analysis of said first data indicates that said at least
10 one portion of said electronic network is not operating within said preselected specification;

 receiving second data resulting from the execution of said second program; and

 analyzing said first data and second data to determine the cause of
15 said at least one portion of said network not operating within said preselected specification.

11. The device of claim 10, wherein said executing a first program comprises measuring the latency associated with said at least one portion of said electronic network.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said at least one portion of said network has a connector associated therewith, said connector storing a management information base, and wherein said executing a first program comprises measuring data stored in said management information base.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein said executing a first program comprises performing at least two measurements of a parameter of said network, and wherein said first data provides an indication of said network not operating within said preselected specification if the difference of said at
5 least two measurements exceeds a preselected amount.

14. The method of claim 10, wherein said first program stores correlations between previous network conditions and previous network problems, and wherein said executing a first program comprises comparing

present network conditions to stored network conditions and determining a
5 network problem based at least in part on the comparison.

15. The method of claim 10, wherein said executing said first
program comprises running at least one trace route routine on said at least
one portion of said network, said trace route routine measuring the latency of
said at least one portion of said network.

16. The method of claim 10, wherein said executing said first
program comprises running a trace route routine a first time and a second
time on said at least a portion of said network, said trace route routine
measuring the latency of said at least one portion of said network, said first
5 data corresponding to the difference between the latency measured said first
time and said second time said trace route routine is run.

17. The method of claim 10 and further comprising displaying a
graphical user interface representative of said network, said graphical user
interface indicating said portion of said network not operating within said
preselected specification.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein said graphical user interface
further displays information relating to at least one cause of said network not
operating within said preselected specification.

19. A device for monitoring the status of an electronic network,
said device comprising:

first diagnostic means for executing a first diagnostic program on at
least one portion of said electronic network, said first diagnostic program
5 generating first data representative of the status of said at least one portion
of said electronic network;

first analysis means for analyzing said first data;

second diagnostic means for executing a second diagnostic program

- on at least one portion of said electronic network if said first analysis means
10 determines that said at least one portion of said electronic network is not
operating within a preselected specification, said second diagnostic program
generating second data representative of the status of said at least one
portion of said network; and
- 15 second analysis means for analyzing said first data and said second
data, said second analysis means generating an indication representative of
the cause of said at least one portion of said electronic network not
operating within said preselected specification.